assistance to Indian nationals working or stranded in Iraq and desiring to return to India.

There were approximately 12000 Indian nationals in Lebanon at the outbreak of hostilities. The Government issued an advisory on 17-7-06 alerting our nationals in Lebanon about the deteriorating situation, and advising them to keep their travel documents ready and to remain in touch with the our Embassy in Beirut for further advice. 1782 Indians desiring to leave Lebanon have been evacuated so far. The Government of India arranged Indian naval ships to ferry these Indian nationals from Lebanon to Larnaca (Cyprus) and from there Air India brought them to India. A small number have also been evacuated *via* Damascus. Approximately 10000 Indian nationals remain in Lebanon as they have opted to stay there. Our Mission in Beirut continues processing request for evacuations of Indian nationals in Lebanon and is in contact with them through various Indian organizations and is making necessary arrangements for Indian nationals desiring to leave Lebanon. In this it has sought and received assistance of the Governments of Lebanon and neighbouring countries.

Land occupied by Bangladesh

†2136. SHRI KALRAJ MISHRA: Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government of Assam has reported to Central Government that about two Kms. of land in Assam has been grabbed by Bangladesh;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) the steps taken by Government for getting back the same?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS (SHRI E. AHAMMED): (a) and (b) Reports about Bangladesh nationals forcibly grabbing 500 acres (2.02 sq km) of Indian territory have been found to be incorrect.

(c) Does not arise.

† Original notice of the question was received in Hindi.